

Reeds Spring R-IV School District

Staff/Student Internet Acceptable Use Agreement

Internet access is now available to students and teachers in our school district. The access is offered as part of a collaborative project involving the Reeds Spring R-IV School District and MOREnet, the Missouri Research and Education telecommunications network. The purpose of MOREnet, which is the district's Internet provider, is to support research and education in and among academic institutions in the U.S.

The Internet is an "Information Superhighway" that allows electronic traffic to pass freely via computer in a trusting atmosphere with a minimum of constraints. The Internet provides open access to an immense, dynamic universe of information, including the following: college and public libraries, the Library of Congress, government agencies such as NASA and the U.S. Weather service, historical sites such as the Smithsonian and other museums, experts in a variety of fields (i.e., online scientists, doctors, professors, etc.), discussion groups on a variety of topics, students and colleagues from around the world.

Reeds Spring R-IV School District believes that the benefits to educators and students from access to the Internet, in the form of information resources and opportunities for collaboration, far exceed any disadvantages of access. However, the district does not have control of the information on the Internet, nor can it effectively limit authorized users from access to the full range of information available. Some sites accessible via the Internet may contain material that is illegal, defamatory, inaccurate or potentially offensive to some people.

The Reeds Spring R-IV School District realizes that guidelines must be set to ensure that appropriate activities take place in the learning environment. Acceptable uses of the Internet are activities resulting from specific tasks and assignments that support learning and teaching, promote the district's goals and objectives, and advance the mission of the district. Unacceptable uses are those which violate the rights and privacy of others; violate copyright law; spread computer viruses; deliberately attempt to degrade or disrupt system performance; and locate, transmit, receive, store or print files or messages that are profane, obscene, or that use language that is offensive or degrading to others. Use of the Internet is a privilege, not a right, and inappropriate use will result in a cancellation of those privileges and possible disciplinary action as defined in the District's discipline policy.

The Reeds Spring R-IV School District, through strict, in-school supervision and clearly defined standards of usage, is working to foster responsible Internet usage. However, parent(s) and guardian(s) of minors are responsible for setting and conveying the standards that their child or ward should follow. The District supports and respects each family's right to decide whether to participate in Internet usage.

Standards of Usage

Access to the Internet is an unparalleled opportunity to interact with the world at large. This opportunity brings with it a number of responsibilities. These guidelines are provided so that users are aware of the responsibilities they are about to acquire.

- A. Use of the school's network is a privilege that may be revoked at any time for abusive conduct. Such conduct would include, but is not limited to the following guidelines.
 - 1. Users shall not access, view, transfer, or store any material in any form which is pornographic, sexually explicit, illegal, defamatory, or potentially offensive to others.
 - 2. Users who unintentionally access such material shall immediately terminate such access.
 - 3. Users shall not trespass in the folders, work, files, or data of others.
 - 4. Users shall not violate copyright laws; i.e., use someone else's work for one's own or download copyrighted software.
 - 5. Users shall not gain unauthorized access to resources or entities.
 - 6. Users shall not use an account owned by another user.
 - 7. Users shall not harass, insult or attack others or invade the privacy of individuals.
 - 8. Users shall not damage computers, computer systems, computer networks, or computer data.
 - 9. Users shall not intentionally waste user time and resources by downloading excessive information, monopolizing the Internet resources or playing games.
- B. Use e-mail appropriately. Students will only be given e-mail privileges on request by a teacher. Responsibilities include checking E-mail regularly, using appropriate language, not interfering with network traffic by sending "chain letters" or "broadcasting" messages to lists or individuals. E-mail is not guaranteed to be private. Students should maintain their anonymity. Messages relating to or in support of illegal activities must be reported to the authorities. The network coordinator must approve all subscriptions to news groups and lists. Students will only be given e-mail privileges on request by a teacher.
- C. Security -- Students and staff members are responsible for the use of their password and address. Giving out an address or password to unauthorized users is forbidden. The user should not reveal personal information of individuals or of organizations (i.e., home address, phone number, password or social security number)

A network coordinator must be notified if a security problem is identified. The user should not demonstrate the problem to anyone other than the network coordinator. Attempts to log on as a system administrator will result in cancellation of user privileges. Any user identified as a security risk or having a history of problems with other computer systems will be denied access.

- D. Reeds Spring R-IV School District reserves the right to edit or remove any material stored in files that any staff member believes may be in conflict with the above standards. Users should not expect that files stored on the District's servers will be private or confidential.
- E. Students will only be allowed to use the Internet for educational purposes. Teachers are responsible for teaching proper techniques and standards for participation, for guiding student access to appropriate uses of technological resources, and for ensuring that students understand that misuse will result in the loss of access privileges.

Exception of Terms and Conditions

Reeds Spring R-IV School District makes no warranties of any kind whether expressed or implied for the service provided. The District will not be responsible for any damages incurred while on this system. These damages include, but are not limited to, loss of data, nondeliveries, misdeliveries, or service interruptions caused by the system or the user's errors or omissions. Use of any information obtained via the information system is at the user's own risk. Reeds Spring R-IV School District specifically denies any responsibility for accuracy or quality of information obtained through electronic information resources.

Students and all other users of the District's computer resources are responsible for respecting and adhering to local, state, federal, and international laws governing usage of available technology. Any attempt to violate the provisions of the district's rules and regulations governing usage may result in revocation of user privileges, suspension or other disciplinary action appropriate to the circumstances.

Information services and features contained on the Internet are intended for the private use of its patrons, and commercial or other unauthorized use of those materials, in any form, is expressly forbidden. (Also, any information that has a cost attached to it may not be accessed.)

All terms and conditions as stated in this document are applicable to the Reeds Spring R-IV School District. These terms and conditions reflect the entire agreement of the parties and supersedes all prior oral or written agreements and understandings of the parties. These terms and conditions shall be governed and interpreted in accordance with the laws of the State of Missouri, United States of America.

<p style="text-align: center;">Reeds Spring R-IV School District Student Internet Acceptable Use Agreement</p>
--

To gain access to the Internet through the District's computer system, all students grade K-12 and all Reeds Spring R-IV School District staff must sign and submit this Internet Acceptable Use Agreement. All students under the age of 18 must also obtain the signature of a parent or legal guardian. Please return this agreement to your child's school office. A Internet Acceptable Use Agreement should be signed each school year. The agreement will be kept on file in the school office.

I hereby consent to the attached conditions and rules of use. I understand that violation of the conditions and rules of use will be grounds for termination of Internet and/or network privileges and possible disciplinary actions as defined in the District's discipline policy. I understand that the Internet contains material that is pornographic, sexually explicit, illegal, defamatory, and otherwise offensive to some people. I understand that it is impossible for the District to prevent access to such material. I hereby waive any cause of action whatsoever against the District, its Board of Education, officers, administrators, teachers, employees, agents and volunteers which may accrue by reason of my access to the Internet. I release said parties from any liability whatsoever that may arise by reason of my access to the Internet.

Student Signature

Date

As the parent or legal guardian of the above student, I grant permission for my son or daughter to access the Internet. I understand that violation of the conditions and rules of use will be grounds for termination of Internet and/or network privileges and possible disciplinary actions as defined in the District's discipline policy. I understand that the Internet contains material that is pornographic, sexually explicit, illegal, defamatory and otherwise offensive to some people. I understand that it is impossible for the District to prevent access to such material. I hereby waive any cause of action whatsoever against the District, its Board of Education, officers, administrators, teachers, employees, agents and volunteers which may accrue by reason of my child's access to the Internet. I release said parties from any liability whatsoever that may arise by reason of my child's access to the Internet.

Parent or Legal Guardian Signature

Date

Name of Student (Print)

Grade Level

Please return this agreement to your child's school office. You may retain the copy of the Internet Acceptable Use Policy for your records.